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Independence and Peace for the Vietnamese People!
YANKEE GO HOME!

VIETNAM COURIER

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Washington's Setbacks
and New Adventures

Page 3

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The L.A.F. close in upon the G.I.'s

COMMUNIQUE OF THE L.A.F. HIGH COMMAND :

1966, YEAR OF GREAT VICTORIES OF THE N. F. L. IN ALL FIELDS

THE L.A.F. ATTACKED ON ALL THEATRES OF OPERATIONS

- Nearly 370,000 Enemies, Including 108,000 G.I.'s and 10,000 Foreign Mercenaries Put out of Action ;
- 47 Enemy Battalions (17 U.S. Infantry and 7 Armoured Battalions) 306 Companies (79 American and 10 Satellite Companies) and 454 Platoons (62 American) Wiped out.
- Enemy's Losses : 2,130 Aircraft Destroyed or Downed, 3,300 Military Vehicles Destroyed, 97 War Vessels and Craft Sunk, 43 Locomotives and 217 Carriages Destroyed, 4 Military Sectors and 314 Posts and Blockhouses Overrun.

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BANGKOK RULERS' SHAMEFUL ROLE IN U.S. AGGRESSION IN VIETNAM

Proofs of Thailand Quislings - U.S. Collusion

ON Jan. 10, 1967 the D.R.V. Foreign Ministry made public a pamphlet entitled "The Collusion Between the Thailand-Authorities and the U.S. Ruling Circle in the 'War of Aggression in Vietnam' comprising four parts:

Part 1: Statements by the Government of the D.R.V. and the South Vietnam, National Front for Liberation;

Part 2: Evidence of the Thailand authorities permission to U.S. aircraft to use bases on Thailand territory for bombing raids on the D.R.V. such as depositions by captured U.S. and Thai pilots, facsimiles of the depositions, photos of the pilots and flight-logs, material found aboard aircraft shot down over North Vietnam.

Part 3: Statements by Governments and political organizations in the world.

Part 4: Excerpts from the world press.

Excerpts from the introduction to the documents are given below:

"...In September 1950, the reactionary administration of Thailand concluded with the United States two bilateral agreements which serve as a cover for deeper U.S. intervention in the region. The 'Economic and Technical Cooperation' and the agreement on 'Mutual Defense'. It made thus a first step in openly selling out Thailand's national interests to the United States.

"After the signing of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Indochina and the establishment by the United States of the aggressive S.E.A.T.O. military bloc, Thailand became the center of activities of the bloc.

"Through the so-called U.S.-Thailand Joint Command and a network of U.S. military advisers posted at all levels down to the Thailand's combat units, the United States actually took over the command of the Thailand army.

"A mission in charge of military assistance to Thailand and the Laotian Right wing Party was set up in Bangkok. The 9th Support Command was established in Korat to prepare for the U.S. military adventures in this part of the world. At the same time intense efforts were made to build a network of military bases and strategic highways in Thailand:

"At present, the United States has at its command there over 30 air bases, 20 naval bases, many barracks, great stores of arms and munitions for equipping several infantry divisions, and a most

powerful communication and radar system. Many strategic highways link up these military bases to those in Laos and South Vietnam. Diligent efforts are being made to complete in 1966 the building of the Sattahip naval base for use by the U.S. Seventh Fleet, and the big airfields of Uthapao and Khon Kaen capable of handling B-52 strategic aircraft.

"The Thailand rulers have not merely approved and pleaded for the U.S. war of aggression in Vietnam; they have also got involved ever more deeply in it.

"After appointing their representatives on the so-called 'International Military Cooperation Office' set up by the United States in Saigon, they have sent 17 air personnel to

THANOM KITTAKACHORN SENDS 1,000 COMBAT TROOPS TO SOUTH VIETNAM

ACCORDING to Western reports, on January 6, 1967, Thailand's Prime Minister Thanom Kittakachorn announced the decision to send to South Vietnam 1,000 combat troops consisting of infantry, artillery and armored units.

On Jan. 10, 1967 the D.R.V. Foreign Ministry issued a statement in which the Thai government was accused of betrayal of the Thai people's interests on the part of the reactionary Thailand ruling circles, faithful lackeys of the United States; it undermines the long-standing friendship between the peoples of Thailand and Vietnam, and the cause of national liberation and peace in Indo-China and South-East Asia.

U. S. B-52 STRATEGIC BOMBERS FOR THAILAND BASE

ACCORDING to many Western reports, Washington and Bangkok are about to conclude an agreement allowing the former to station B-52 strategic bombers to Thailand. At the same time, high-ranking U.S. and Bangkok personalities disclosed that as a matter of fact B-52s had been sent to Sattahip base near Bangkok.

The dispatch of strategic planes to the Asian mainland not only facilitates U.S. stepping up of the bombing of the two nooses of Vietnam and the liberated zone in Laos, but also encourages warlike acts with incalculable consequences against other Asian countries.

On Jan. 14, 1967, the D.R.V. Foreign Ministry issued a statement energetically protesting against the above-mentioned extremely serious act of war.

Map found aboard a U.S. aircraft shot down over North Vietnam

"The strength of the U.S. forces in Thailand has also recorded a rapid increase. From nearly 10,000 by late 1965, it has now been raised to about 30,000 men, two-thirds of which belong to the Air Force, and comprising a great part of the 13th Air Force, with 300 planes of various types, 'Special Forces', engineers, signal units...

"Thailand has thus become a U.S. 'Okinawa' in South-East Asia.

"Over the past few odd years, at the instigation and with the help of the United States, the Thailand authorities, carrying out U.S. plans, have ceaselessly opposed the independence of the Indo-Chinese nations.

"By various political, economic and military measures, including attempted coups d'etat and the shameful occupation of the Prey Vhear temple, the Thailand administration has been continuously acting against the independence of the Kingdom of Cambodia, and encroaching on her independence and territory.

"The Thailand rulers have together with the Laotian Right-wing Party waged war on the Lao people. In 1965, having sustained dismal defeats in the war of aggression in Laos, the United States dispatched its troops to Thailand to prepare for an eventual entry into Laos. At present, in spite of their undertakings under the 1950

South Vietnam and assisted the Saigon administration in the training of jet pilots. Recently, they have decided to dispatch to South Vietnam a 180-strong combat force together with one landing ship, one patrol boat and two transport planes.

"For the past two years and more, the Thailand authorities have utilized the U.S. Air Force to use airfields on Thailand territory as staging bases for 60 to 80% of their air

attacks on the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. Together with Da Nang and Chu Lai bases in South Vietnam, the airfields of Korat, Udorn, Ubon in Thailand have become the first front-line bases for the U.S. combat jet squadrons of F-4s, F-4Cs and other types in their bombings of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the armed 'defence' of Thailand as well as the Thai and the other patriotic forces.

"The Thai government and the Thai people are the victims of the U.S. imperialist policy of aggression and war.

"Time and again the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam has sternly condemned the Thailand rulers' collusion with the U.S. imperialists in their war of aggression in Vietnam. The peoples of Thailand and other South-East Asian countries, and many governments have also energetically protested against the Thailand rulers' policy of tailing after the U.S. imperialist aggressors.

"Bound together by long-standing ties of friendship, the Vietnamese and Thai peoples have always encouraged and supported each other in the struggle against the common enemy-imperialism and colonialism. The Vietnamese people are confident that, for the sake of the independence, democracy, peace, neutrality and prosperity of their country, and their traditions of friendship with the Vietnamese people, the Thai people will resolutely turn the hands of the reactionary Bangkok ruling junta, and will not allow them to betray and sell Thailand youth to Vietnam as cannon-fodder for the U.S. aggressors. If the Thailand authorities obviously persist in their tailing after the U.S. imperialist aggressors, they will inevitably have to bear all the disastrous consequences arising from their odious actions."

Facsimile of deposition
American pilot captured:
Major James H. Kaser
USAF/FR 24551, 354 TFS,
355 TFW, Takhli, Thailand

CRIME ADMISSIONS

IN the previous years and on many occasions, the Johnson clique used to paint splendid pictures of the prosperity of the U.S.A. and made great promises to the American people about the "great society" program as well as the solution to the Negro problem. They also raised quite a ballyhoo about the diplomatic success of the U.S. and the prospective victory of their war of aggression in Vietnam.

AVOWAL

REALITY in the United States during the past period has given the lie to the bragadolescence of the Johnson clique. Johnson's "great society" program is in a fix. Commodity price keeps rising and inflation pressure has greatly affected the economic life in the U.S. Far from being solved, the Negro problem has become more critical than ever. Large numbers of American Negroes have resorted to violence in their fight for freedom. In the international arena, U.S. imperialism is more isolated than ever. In their aggressive war in Vietnam, the U.S. imperialists have been suffering one defeat after another. Johnson's State of the Union message to the U.S. Congress on January 10, 1967 was an open admission of these all-sided failures. On the economic situation at home, Johnson admitted: "We have been concerned because consumer prices rose 4.3 per cent over the 18 month period. We decided to step up our efforts to bring down inflation. This was more than we expected. Our economic disappointment in the economy during 1966 was excessive rise in interest rates and a tightening of credit. They imposed a heavy and unfair burden on home buyers and home builders."

On the social situation in the United States, Johnson recognized that there were still many areas where Americans lived in misery, that this war (against poverty) was not an easy one. Johnson devoted a long paragraph of his message to the increase of crimes in the United States. He declared that an answer to the problem and the best measures to prevent the daily occurrence of crimes in the United States were still to be found. On U.S. foreign policy, as the French paper *Le Monde* remarked, Johnson's message was an indication of passivity and deadlock.

Making an overall appraisal of Johnson's message, the *New York Herald Tribune* commented: President Johnson's message seems to be the darkest for many years. Because of war Mr. Johnson said that he was now more determined to bring about a change of war he had to limit his dream of transforming the United States into a great place. Because of war the future is in danger.

There cannot be any better comment of Johnson's message reflected the gloomy situation in the United States in all respects. The intensification and expansion of the aggression in Vietnam, the bitter in their "lightning war and lightning victory" strategy. Yet for all this heavy defeat and the attacks from all sides, the Johnson clique pursue their blind and reckless adventure, and are still nurturing the wild dream of enslaving our people, partitioning our country, turning the southern part of our country into a new-type colony and base of aggression and torpeding socialist construction in North Vietnam. Johnson's January 10 State of the Union message was a message forcing the American people to continue, expand and intensify the aggressive war against the Vietnamese people.

In his salubrious address Johnson defied the demands of the majority of the American people, many peace organizations in the United States and the peoples of all nations and political circles in the United States who have been urging him to "lay down the burden" i.e. to stop bombing North Vietnam, withdraw U.S. and satellite troops from South Vietnam, and to settle the Vietnam problem instead of going on and on for war. He cynically declared: "Our pressure now must be sustained and will be sustained...We must firmly pursue our present course. We will stand firm in Vietnam."

To procure more means to continue his criminal war in Vietnam, Johnson decided to impose higher taxes on the American people. What he promised to bring to the American people is higher taxes, higher commodity prices and higher cost of attacks of a terrorist and racist character on Hanoi capital and other populated areas in North Vietnam. They were an admission of the failure of the "lightning war and lightning victory" strategy. The "special war" of the first rounds of the American people is higher taxes, the escalation policy in North Vietnam, of the air attacks of a terrorist and racist character on Hanoi capital and

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U.S. AGGRESSION IN VIETNAM SETBACKS NEW AMERICAN ADVENTURES

(Excerpts from an article appearing in NHAN DAN issue of January 15, 1967)

THE PRESIDENT LIES TO CONGRESS

To counter public opinion which has been strongly and angrily condemning the U.S. imperialists' aggression in Vietnam, massive dispatching of troops to South Vietnam and escalating the war in North Vietnam - a very serious step was the repeated air raids on Hanoi capital. Johnson once again offered some excuses, claiming that the U.S. troops had come to South Vietnam because "the people of South Vietnam have the right to remain non-communists". Such claims have long been disposed of. Johnson's above quoted cynical assertion has further exposed the U.S. imperialists as an international gangster. His impudent utterance as well as his open instruction to the Saigon puppets "to establish real security to the people living in the countryside and bring to the villagers an effective civilian government" clearly bore out the master-and-servant relations between the U.S. and the Saigon administration, the U.S. dark design to Americanize Vietnam, to intensify the U.S. war of aggression in South Vietnam, to bring about an escalation against North Vietnam through barbarous raids on Hanoi and other localities, the stepping-up of the building of B-52 base in Thailand, all this salubrious rattling drowned his feeble and hypocritical "peace professions."

THE HOPELESS ADVENTURE CONTINUES

The situation of the U.S. aggressors in Vietnam is, in fact, more and more desperate. The U.S. dark design to Americanize Vietnam, to intensify the U.S. war of aggression in South Vietnam, to bring about an escalation against North Vietnam through barbarous raids on Hanoi and other localities, the stepping-up of the building of B-52 base in Thailand, all this salubrious rattling drowned his feeble and hypocritical "peace professions."

There were in Johnson's message many other cynical and absurd points which are as illegal and impudent as the above quoted assertions and intended to justify the U.S. ruling clique's intensifying and broadening their aggression in Vietnam. For instance Johnson claimed that the U.S. must choose to "end the great evil war in Vietnam" or "ward off a greater". By saying so, the Johnson clique implicitly admitted that the aggressive war in Vietnam was unjust and unsavory and that the "cause" they were waging in Vietnam was "unclear and remote" for "American people. By the same token, the Johnson clique showed their utter embarrassment in coping with the American opinion which was growing increasingly impatient with the continued escalation of the aggressive war in Vietnam, a war which has nothing to do with the peace and security of the United States, a war which is staining the honour of the American people, a colonialist war condemned by the progressive mankind as a whole.

FORTY-FIVE WORDS IN A SPEECH

THE whole of Johnson's message spelled out a sense of despair and pessimism of the loser but at the same time reeked of the bellicosity of the Johnson clique which tried to impose

on the American people the continuation of their aggressive war. "no matter how costly the war, we will continue it" (AFP January 11, 1967) In an attempt to camouflage his intensifying and broadening of the aggressive war in Vietnam and especially to soothe the vast majority of the American people, many personalities, intellectuals, clergymen and social activists in the U.S. and public opinion in the world at large who had been strongly urging the U.S. government to stop definitively and unconditionally the bombing of North Vietnam, withdrew U.S. troops from South Vietnam, recognize the South Vietnamese National Front for Liberation, agree to the points of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the 5 points of the South Vietnamese National Front for Liberation, Johnson refused to do so. In his 3,000 word speech to the question of "peace in Vietnam" he could give nothing other than the showmen and perfidious double-talk which he has rehearsed over and again, such as "unconditional peace discussion anywhere, anytime."

THE REMEDY TO THE U.S. CANCER

The whole bellicose message of Johnson, the feverish intensification of the U.S. war of aggression in South Vietnam, the U.S. escalation against North Vietnam through barbarous raids on Hanoi and other localities, the stepping-up of the building of B-52 base in Thailand, all this salubrious rattling drowned his feeble and hypocritical "peace professions."

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* Sub-heads are ours.

1966 YEAR OF GREAT VICTORIES OF THE N.F.L. ON ALL FIELDS

THE L.A.F. ATTACKED ON ALL THEATRES OF OPERATIONS

(COMMUNIQUE OF THE SOUTH VIETNAM L.A.F. HIGH COMMAND)

IN 1966, the South Vietnam L.A.F. and people won unprecedented great victories: the U.S. expeditionary army and the U.S. henchmen suffered very heavy defeats. According to still incomplete figures, our army and people fought nearly 40,000 battles, big and small, killed, wounded or captured some 200,000 enemy troops including 108,000 U.S. aggressors and nearly 10,000 satellite troops of the U.S. The U.S. casualties were five times as many as in 1965. If the 100,000 odd deserters of the puppet army were included, the total of enemy troops put out of action would approximate 300,000.

In terms of units, we wiped out 47 battalions (including 17 infantry battalions and 7 armoured units of the U.S.), 306 companies (including 79 U.S. companies and 10 companies of satellite troops), 451 platoons (including 62 U.S. platoons).

The number of U.S. companies wiped out was 6 times that of 1965. In addition, the South Vietnam army and people shot down or destroyed 2,190 aircraft, one and a half times as many as in 1965, blew up 3,300 military vehicles, sank 97 ships or gunboats, destroyed 43 locomotives and 217 rail cars, demolished 242 bridges and culverts, destroyed or forced the enemy to withdraw from 4 military sub-sectors, 174 posts and 140 watch-towers.

Through these achievements, the following remarks on the enemy as well as on ourselves can be made:

1. The morale and fighting ability of the U.S. satellite and puppet troops were sinking more and more alarmingly.

In the past year, the U.S. feverishly increased its armed forces and war material in the hope of using quantity to make up for quality, but they utterly failed in their attempt still. The more forces they fielded, the higher their casualties and the more disastrous their situation. The big and repeated victories recorded by the army and people in both zones of Vietnam greatly affected the enemy political, ideological and organizational situation, thus seriously impairing the morale and fighting capacity of the U.S. and satellite troops.

Within the puppet army, desertion by whole platoons, companies or even battalions spread in the 25th, 10th, 21st and other divisions and even among the units of rangers and commandos, known as the shock forces of the aggressors and their stooges.

The movement to resist orders to raid and plunder the people's property constantly developed within the puppet army. In Long An province (formerly Tan An - Cho Lon) for instance, in the first 9 months of 1966, 9 battalions, 21 companies and 10 battalions of the puppet army refused to go on raids or to the rescue when they attacked the troops. Even in the puppet main divisions, particularly in Divisions 1, 5 and 25, several battalions on many occasions ignored their commanders' orders to undertake raids or refused to be stationed in dangerous places. Uprisings and mutinies were also on the increase in a number of important units of the puppet army. At the March uprising of patriotic army-men in the 1st Armoured Regiment, a core unit of the enemy forces.

The morale of the U.S. and satellite troops was also very low. Even men of U.S. shock units such as the 1st and 25th infantry divisions displayed

growing distaste for war and increasing fear of death. Disobedience to orders to attack and plunder the people's property and the end to the U.S. aggressive war in Vietnam were no longer isolated cases but took on a more and more collective character. Some cases took a very active form such as the struggle of troops of the U.S. 1st Infantry Division in Lai Khe and Dau Tieng, of the 2nd Brigade and the 25th Infantry Division in Duc Hoa, Cu Chi.

Large numbers of U.S. marines at Chu Lai resisted the raiding orders. Many G.I.'s forced to fight committed suicide by shooting themselves or jumping off helicopters; many others showed high nervousness and screamed for help when facing the L.A.F.

Following repeated setbacks on the battlefield, the U.S. and puppet troops' morale and fighting ability decreased markedly and contradictions between the aggressors and puppet soldiers became ever more acute. The G.I.'s slighted the puppet soldiers who, in return, lost confidence in their American allies.

This state of affairs' not only made it impossible for the Pentagon bosses to achieve their strategic scheme to create some sort of mutual reliance between the U.S. and puppet troops

have clearly proved their inability to face an opponent with a well-defined strategy and a firm revolutionary ideal, iron fighting will and a skilful combat tactics. Through the test of strength, they have fully realized the incapacity of their infantry which is no match for us.

That is why, they have made tremendous efforts to send in 3,000 more armoured vehicles (more than the double of 1965), 2,100 more artillery pieces and 3,000 more aircraft (twice as many as in the previous year). In many battles, the enemy dared not send ground troops to cope with the L.A.F. but resorted to artillery units and air force as the main combat forces. However the U.S. air force, artillery, armoured units, chemical poisons as well as their "heliborne" and "armoured" tactics and the like can never make up for the lamentable combativity of both the U.S. and puppet troops. Moreover, the valiant, resourceful and creative methods of fighting of the L.A.F. have neutralized the effect of the enemy air force and artillery as a charm for their troops.

The L.A.F. also mounted attacks on the enemy rear areas such as Saigon, Da Nang, the Tan Son Nhut, Bien Hoa, Soc Trang and other airfields, destroying hundreds of aircraft and military vehicles, dozens of artillery pieces, tens

of thousands of troops, and so on. Our armed forces and people have battered one after another and some for many times all U.S. combat units, those with some combat experience and those who were new to the Vietnam terrain, such as the Big Red One, the Tropical Lightning, the First Air Mobile Cavalry Division, the 23rd Paratrooper Brigade, or units still in good shape freshly thrown onto the battlefield, such as the 4th Infantry Division, the 10th Light Infantry Brigade, the 11th Armored Regiment.

Whether they went out on raids or dug in in their strongholds.

1966 also witnessed the steady and rapid growth and maturity of all the three kinds of the L.A.F. Our regular army became more and more experienced and won many victories over scores of U.S. infantry and armoured units.

Together with the L.A.F., the regional forces assisted the guerrillas in making deep thrusts into contested or enemy-held areas, helped the people in their uprisings to break the enemy grip and contributed to broadening liberated areas. Many units of regional forces became strong enough to wipe out whole companies, even whole battalions of U.S. or puppet troops.

The prominent feature of 1966 was the great qualitative, organizational and operational progress made by the

It is the U.S. ambition to rule the world. Yet, in its aggressive war in Vietnam, it already has to spend from one third to a half of its defence budget and field 6 divisions and 7 brigades (out of a total of 21 U.S. combat divisions) and continues to lose. One may ask how many wars such as that in South Vietnam can the U.S. make? This is a reality of our times: the bigger and wealthier power in the imperialist camp has

been losing a costly war against a small nation.

The splendid successes of the Vietnamese people have borne out the truth that weapons and dollars cannot subdue a nation, which though small and inferior to the opponent in equipment and technique, has risen up with determination to fight for self-liberation, independence and freedom.

2. Enemy troops grew in number but their morale and skill decreased steadily while all the three kinds of the South Vietnam people's armed forces grew both in number and efficiency.

3. The morale and combat ability of the L.A.F. grew continuously and the great successes of the South Vietnam Liberation Armed Forces' high determination to fight and to win. It is precisely this determination which has helped our army overcome all hardships and bled off sacrifices to win the first victory in the war waged by the U.S. with nearly 400,000 soldiers. Although the U.S. has been conducting an atrocious war, in which barbaric methods are coupled with wicked political and economic schemes and psychological war, our L.A.F. have fully proved to be an iron-clad army with a boundless loyalty to the revolution and the people, an army which no brutal force can bend and no vicious scheme can deceive. All our fighters are at one mind to fight and defeat the U.S. aggressors.

Our armed forces and people have battered one after another and some for many times all U.S. combat units, those with some combat experience and those who were new to the Vietnam terrain, such as the Big Red One, the Tropical Lightning, the First Air Mobile Cavalry Division, the 23rd Paratrooper Brigade, or units still in good shape freshly thrown onto the battlefield, such as the 4th Infantry Division, the 10th Light Infantry Brigade, the 11th Armored Regiment.

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The prominent feature of 1966 was the great qualitative, organizational and operational progress made by the

guerrilla movement. In many places, guerrillas not only intercepted and destroyed the regular army and the villages, but also made deep thrusts into enemy-held areas to punish cruel agents of the U.S., supported the struggle of the local people, set up "Destroy Yanks" belts, harassed the enemy on roads and waterways and cut off their communications.

The widespread and multifarious activities of the guerrillas spread the enemy thin everywhere, thus creating conditions for the regular army to undertake large unit actions against the enemy and wipe out a great part of their vital forces. Another remarkable fact was that guerrilla warfare grew more versatile and widespread wherever U.S. troops were present. 1966 also saw a very close and harmonious co-ordination between various battalions, from Quang Tri in the northernmost part of Vietnam to Canau in its southernmost part, passing through the Western High Plateaux. The continual activities of our troops in West and Central Nam Bo also made an important contribution to the great successes of our army and people in the past year.

1966 was a year when our army and people firmly maintained and promoted the initiative on the battlefield, and continuously attacked the enemy everywhere, taking the last active in counter-attacking their raids while making deep thrusts into their bases to wipe them out. We attacked both the U.S. and the puppets in all parts of South Vietnam, inflicting losses on all their units and bases. The L.A.F. also devised many original fighting tactics: now ambushing the enemy in front, now pounding mortar, now springing lightning assaults right on its strategic areas such as Nui Mot (Binh Duong) and Dau Tieng (Thu Dau Mot), now slipping into its rear and storage areas such as Saigon, Long Binh and Da Nang, striking at the enemy both in its advance and its retreat. With such diversified ways of fighting, the L.A.F. kept the enemy in a state of constant anxiety, which crippled its capacity to resist.

This is also a reality of our times: the superior military line and art of the people's war has outdone any new means of massacre of the imperialists including the U.S. imperialists. The line, strategy and tactics of people's war have defeated and are sure to defeat completely the line strategy and tactics of counter-revolutionary aggressive wars.

4. The victories of the South Vietnam army and people in 1966 were also made possible by the great victories of North Vietnam which had dealt repeated hammer blows at the war of destruction of the U.S. imperialists.

TO the call of the South, the North readily responds, and to the call of the North, the South rushes forward. Whatever their schemes, the U.S. aggressors can never break the rock-like unity of the 31 million Vietnamese people. At the same time the South Vietnam armed forces and people enjoy warm support from the nationalist camp, the growing sympathy and encouragement of the peace-loving people all over the world.

3. The military victories won in co-ordination with the successes of the political struggle have made ours a great and all-sided victory.

REALITY in the past year more convincingly proved that the more troops the U.S. sent to South Vietnam to step up its war of aggression, the more it intensified its reactionary policies in the political, economic and cultural fields, the more it aggravated the contradictions between the Vietnamese people of the one hand and the U.S. aggressors and the puppets on the other. This was actually the root and also direct cause which triggered off a widespread, far-reaching and fierce movement against the U.S. and the Thien-Ky clique as never before among all strata of the South Vietnam population in the urban as well as rural areas, which worsened still further their already confused political situation.

Meanwhile, the political prestige of the South Vietnam National Front for Liberation and the Liberation Armed Forces was greatly enhanced, and it was on this political basis that the South Vietnam people recorded great military victories. On the other hand, the armed struggle was closely combined with political struggle and made possible the development of the latter and other activities. Reality proved that military victories were the results of combined political and military attacks and agitation work among enemy troops. They were the collective achievements of our entire people and armed forces.

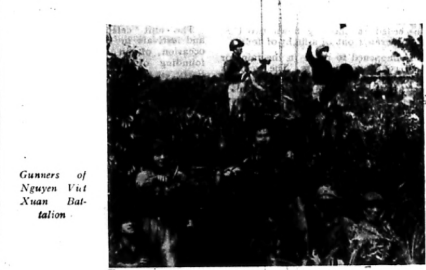
Particularly, as admitted by the enemy themselves, not more than 10 per cent of the "pacification" program—the "second front" on which they had pinned much hope—could be realized. This was because of the powerful thrusts of the people's military and political struggle and agitation among the enemy troops. The fact that the enemy had to detain 90% of the puppet army to the "house mother" job clearly spelled out the serious failure of the U.S. in this important strategic scheme.

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HEROES OF THE D.R.V. in the Anti-U.S. Struggle

NGUYEN VIET XUAN BATTALION



Generals of
Nguyen Viet
Xuan Battalion

ON November 18, 1964, Nguyen Viet Xuan, political instructor of A.A. Company 3, had a leg broken by a splinter when he went from one battery to another to stimulate his men. Hiding it from everybody, he quietly ordered a comrade to cut off the wounded limb and remained at his combat post. He said: 'There is no fear of U.S. jet planes! Aim straight at the enemy and fire!' That day, the unit shot down three American aircraft. Nguyen Viet Xuan was dead, but he will live for ever in the memory of his comrades-in-arms and his words will never cease ringing in their ears.

OTHER NGUYEN VIET XUAN HAVE APPEARED IN COMPANY 3 AND BATTALION 14

NGUYEN VIET XUAN set a brilliant example to every fighter. After an engagement, squad leader Ngo Van sat motionless on the platform, with tears in his eyes. Asked about the reason of his sorrow, he answered: 'My shot was wide of target. Xuan would have scolded me.' Duc was not tall; he suffered from malaria so he was appointed gunner of 3 Bat in action, he was unable to successfully replace any fighter. Asked about the reason of his success, he answered: 'Didn't Xuan tell us to learn to do every work if we want to punish the Yanks?'

Huong was in his eye by a splinter. His blood wetted a fighter's jacket on the platform, but he did not move from his place. He was wounded in the belly by a bullet and hid it from the other comrades. Thrown off the gun platform by a bomb which chopped off his right foot, Duc jumped back on it and used his left foot to press on the trigger. Having his right arm broken by a splinter, Vinh kept watching the enemy planes and signalling with his left hand.

Such fighters were new Nguyen Viet Xuan, and Battalion 14 boasted many of them. Private Tran Binh was returning from hospital. On his way home, he ran into an air attack. As a nearby A.A. unit was fighting the enemy planes, he introduced himself to its leader: 'I am Tran Binh from unit Nguyen Viet Xuan. Let me join in the fight!'

He was immediately accepted. The combat lasted until sunset. When Binh left, his new comrades knew better and liked more the fighters of Nguyen Viet Xuan unit.

WHERE THE ENEMY ARE, WE'LL GO.

BATTALION Nguyen Viet Xuan was extremely mobile. It constantly tried to contact the enemy and was always combat-ready. In the past two years, its vehicles covered a distance three times as long as that round

(Continued page 6)

* Title of a song of the Vietnam People's Army in the resistance war against the French colonialists.

South Vietnam Dec. 28, 1966

THE L.A.F.:

● **Smashed Operation Deckhouse V at its Initial Stage in Ben Tre Province, Wiping Out 600 U.S. - Puppet Troops (January 6-8, 1967)**

● **Put 2 U.S. Marines Companies Out of Action About a Score Kilometres from Da Nang (January 14)**

U.S. troops were recently deployed for the occupation of the Mekong Delta. This was the biggest operation in this area, codenamed *Deckhouse V*.

According to *LP*, right on the first day (Jan. 6) the guerrillas and regional forces fought them as soon as they landed in coastal Thanh Phong, Thanh Phu district, Ben Tre province; at the same time the L.A.F. made successive attacks on them in other parts of the province.

On Jan. 6 alone, in the Thanh Phong area, the guerrillas, with sniping fire and combining grenade and mine attacks with surprise attacks and ambushes, wiped out hundreds of the invaders.

In co-ordination with these combats, the regional forces and guerrillas of other localities in the province inflicted many losses on the enemy.

Wiped out 142 puppet regulars in 14. Tri district, some 25 km North of Thanh Phu.

Attacked the enemy who

attempted to re-occupy a post destroyed on Jan. 4 night, completely wiped out Security Forces Company 083 and Civil Guard Company 1001 and inflicted heavy losses on Ranger Battalion 32 (one infantry company and one commanding company completely destroyed and another company decimated) in Binh Dai district about 36 km North of Thanh Phu, on Jan. 1 night.

On the same night, the Saint Francis River rocket launcher vessel was damaged.

On Jan. 7 night, the cutter *Fort Kennedy* was damaged as it was approaching the raided area.

On Jan. 8 night, one post in Binh Dai district was destroyed and one platoon of enemy troops wiped out.

The Gong Tron military sub-sector about 35km North of Thanh Phu district was attacked twice, the puppet administration office demolished, an information centre and an artillery emplacement

damaged and military vehicles destroyed.

Mo Cay district town about 25km Northeast of Thanh Phu was infiltrated, one military sub-sector and 3 posts attacked (one of them razed to the ground and the defending platoon completely wiped out).

On Jan. 12, a U.S. marine detachment was caught in an ambush and virtually wiped out in Thanh Phu district.

The most successful action was the sinking of the dredger *Janetia Bay*, about 50km northwest of Thanh Phu (the landing zone of U.S. marines) on Jan. 9 night. This 3 million-dollar vessel, the world's 4th largest of the kind, had been sent there to widen a sea channel in preparation for the establishment of the first U.S. military base in My Tho. *AFP* noted that in case the dredger was completely destroyed and was to be replaced by another, U.S. troop deployment into the Mekong Delta would be delayed for months.

TWO U.S. COMPANIES PUT OUT OF ACTION IN QUANG NAM PROVINCE

ACCORDING to Western news agencies, on Jan. 14 afternoon the L.A.F. engaged a U.S. marine company heliported into an area about 25km Southeast of Da Nang. This unit, belonging to Battalion One, First Marine Regiment, was trounced out of action after more than 6 hours' fighting.

Almost all the helicopters that landed the marines in two waves were hit by ground fire (*AP*).

The same night, the L.A.F. attacked a post guarded by another U.S. marine company, 13km South of the said city and also put the unit out of action.

The U.S. military spokesman in Saigon admitted that marine casualties in these attacks were "moderate". In American military jargon, *Reuter* commented, "moderate" means that the U.S. fighting force was impaired.

Earlier, the enemy had also taken a serious beating:

On Jan. 12 night, 3 positions adjoining Dien Ban and Day Xuyen districts,

(Continued page 7)

NORTH VIETNAM

HANOI:

THREE U.S. PLANES DOWNED IN ONE DAY (January 17)

ON January 17 afternoon, U.S. planes intruded into the airspace of Hanoi. Thanks to their constant vigilance, and persistence, the total of Hanoi shot down 3 aircraft including one piloted reconnaissance plane.

The same day, another unmanned reconnaissance plane was also downed over Ha Tay province, thus bringing to 1,842 the total of American planes brought down over North Vietnam (Jan. 18).

RESPONDING TO THE N.F.L. APPEAL "LET'S BE RESOLVED TO AVENGE OUR COMPATRIOTS IN BINH SON AND SON TINH"

THE L.A.F. WIPED OUT 2 SOUTH-KOREAN COMPANIES, 20km NORTH WEST OF QUANG NGAI (Jan. 10, 1967)

ACCORDING to Liberation Radio, in response to the Central Trung Bo Liberation Front Committee's slogan, "Let's be resolved to avenge the dastardly murder of our compatriots in Binh Son and Son Tinh districts, Quang Nam province, by the Pak Jung Hi mercenaries troops", the L.A.F. on January 10, 1967 launched a violent attack against the South Korean mercenaries some 20km northeast of Quang Ngai provincial capital.

At 2.30 p.m. when a company of the Pak Jung Hi troops fell into an ambush, the L.A.F. immediately used bayonets to wipe them out group by group, only in some minutes' fighting, the whole enemy company was completely knocked out.

Another company of Pak Jung Hi troops landed from helicopters at 3.30 p.m. to pick up their dead also fell into an ambush, and almost all of them were wiped out by the L.A.F.

ASIAN IS Not For Sale

IN execution of the plan for the intensification and extension of their aggressive war in Vietnam, the U.S. imperialists are frantically bringing more expeditionary forces into the Southern part of Vietnam. At the same time, they are pressing hard their satellites for more mercenary troops for this war theatre. On U.S. orders, the rulers of Thailand will shortly introduce one thousand more troops. And, according to recent news, the Pak Jung Hi clique are preparing to dispatch more soldiers, pilots and intelligence agents disguised as "civilian personnel" while the Kuala Lumpur authorities are thinking of incorporating Malaysian youths into the American mercenary force in South Vietnam.

All this is connected with the Manila Conference held in October last year, and the tours made by Johnson, Rusk and Harriman in a number of Asian countries in the closing months of 1966. In the course of the said conference and trips, the Washington rulers repeatedly claimed that their purpose was to seek peace for Vietnam, and "tighten the friendship bonds between the United States and its allies" so on and so forth. In fact, as pointed out by world opinion at that time, Washington mainly aimed at

bringing pressure to bear on its satellites for more mercenary troops and, at the same time, giving its dirty aggression the character of a "collective war waged by Asians". The American imperialists regard such an expedient as a magic wand capable of saving them from defeat and isolation. Over the past few months they and their stooges have been engaged in a dirty battle a battle of dollars for cannon-fodder.

American pressure on satellite countries for mercenary troops to fight in the U.S. war of aggression for Vietnam, the American imperialists once again brings out in full relief the customary and perfidious policy of American imperialism to "use Asians to fight Asians". Expounding clearly the guiding principle of the United States policy of aggression and domination in Asia, some "theoreticians" of American imperialism have cynically put forth the watchword: "U.S. dollars and weapons, Asian men". This precisely is

what, among other things, U.S. neo-colonialism implies. Confronted with a world situation, changing to their disadvantage, the American imperialists have resorted to many machievellian manoeuvres to cover up their aggression and crimes against Asian and other lands. In one country they utilize the puppet state machine to repress its people, and the puppet army under the direction of U.S. "advisers" to counter patriotic forces. As regards foreign countries, they employ the armed forces under the command of one or some of them, with eventually U.S. troops forming their core, to fight against others. This policy aims at killing several birds with one stone, i.e. avoiding the blame for direct aggression, diminishing the losses in lives suffered by the American youths thereby placating public opinion in the U.S. and waging an aggressive war at a low cost. With the money spent on one G.I. in South

Vietnam, the U.S. administration can pay some twenty mercenaries from Thailand, South Korea or the Philippines.

In implementation of the "using" Asians to fight Asians" policy, the Americans have set up various organizations: the SEATO, CENTO, ASA, ASPAC (Asian and Pacific Community), the Asian anti-Communist League, etc. Apart from these bodies dealing in Asian blood, they have created a tool for their exploitation — the so-called "Asian Development Bank" — with the United States as the principal investor. Attractive words have been so far uttered to entice the Asian people. Concluded in 1954, the SEATO, an aggressive military organization, is described as one for the "defence of the peoples' equality and self-determination for the sake of peace and security" in Southeast Asia! As to the Manila Conference, termed by the people of the world "war council", it issued a statement, "aiming at its goal the making of the Asian and Pacific area into a "secure, orderly and prosperous" one. In the closing meeting of the Conference, Johnson boasted that every basis for a new community was available and that the United States "had been to co-operate and need be and when invited to

But how can such gross terror schemes and provocations come from the aggressive and imperialist policy of U.S. imperialism? The United States decided on the past twenty years and more are there to bear its ugly nature and blood-stained hands? Its criminal wars of aggression against the peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Laos; its armed intervention in China, Cambodia, Indonesia and the Near and Middle East; its interference in the internal affairs of the Soviet Union, Cuba and the coup d'etat staged there; the presence of nearly one million American troops and hundreds of military bases in Asia, the constant threat posed by the Seventh Fleet to the security of Asian peoples — all these and other facts throw a strong light on the face that U.S. imperialism is the aggressor and fomenter of war in Asia and is massing and re-massing the peoples of Asia is the gendarme and sworn enemy of all the peoples of Asia who have been invited" him to come. The American imperialists have set foot here of their own will and on the basis for a new community was available and that the United States "had been to co-operate and need be and when invited to

(Continued page 2)